

# MIAMI BEACH

City of Miami Beach, 1700 Convention Center Drive, Miami Beach, FL 33139, [www.miamibeachfl.gov](http://www.miamibeachfl.gov)

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER  
LTC NO. #

**156-2016**

## LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Mayor Philip Levine and Members of the City Commission  
FROM: Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager *for Jim*  
DATE: April 12, 2016  
SUBJECT: Motions by the Hispanic Affairs Committee

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On April 11, 2016, the Hispanic Affairs Committee adopted the following motions:

1. A motion of the Hispanic Affairs Committee opposing a Cuban consulate in the City of Miami Beach, so long as the Cuban government continues its violation of basic freedoms and human rights.

*Motion made by Herb Sosa, and seconded by Regina Suarez.  
Adopted 7-0 by voice vote.*

2. The Hispanic Affairs Committee advises the Mayor and the City Commission that, in midst of the implementation of new diplomatic relations and policies between the United States and the Cuban government, upon the date of adoption of this recommendation by the City Commission, it is premature to create any new policy or change the City's current policy in regards to normal relations between Cuba and the City of Miami Beach. Time must be given to grasp the results and outcome of the full implementation of those new diplomatic relations and policies. As stated by President Barack Obama on March 21, 2016 during his trip to Cuba, "Change is going to happen," adding that change would not occur "overnight" and that "we still have significant differences around human rights and individual liberties inside of Cuba."

*Motion made by Alex Fernandez,<sup>1</sup> and seconded by Herb Sosa.  
Adopted 7-0 by voice vote.*

3. The Hispanic Affairs Committee reaffirms its respect to the Cuban exile community and will thus forever be united in solidarity with the pain endured by those who fled Castro's dictatorial rule, the divide of family, the loss of loved ones, and the persecution of Cubans seeking religious and political freedom.

*Motion made by Alex Fernandez, and seconded by Herb Sosa.  
Adopted 7-0 by voice vote.*

c: Raul J. Aguila, City Attorney  
Marcia Monserrat, Chief of Staff  
Members of the Hispanic Affairs Committee

JLM/KEG/NK

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<sup>1</sup> Mr. Fernandez, the Chair of the Hispanic Affairs Committee, passed the gavel to Ms. Velasco prior to making the second and third motions adopted at the meeting.